SI.No.	Activities	Total
11.	Centres for Prevention of Parent to child Transmission of HIV/AIDS No. of Sentinnel Sites	89
12.		384

Revenue loss due to spurious drugs

1567. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the magnitude of the problem of spurious drugs;

(b) the estimated revenue loss to Government as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) In view the gravity of the menace of spurious drugs, Government of India has set up an expert committee on January 27, 2003 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, DG, CSIR and Secretary to Government of India to look into the various issues related to Drugs Control Administration as well as to estimate the magnitude of the problem of spurious drugs and to recommend measures to deal with this problem effectively. The report of the Committee is awaited.

(c) Government of India has taken the following initiatives to tackle the problem of spurious drugs:—

(i) Detailed guidelines in respect of strategies required to be adopted for efficient surveillance over the movement of spurious drugs were given to State on November 17, 1999 to ensure focused surveillance over manufacture and sale of spurious drugs.

(ii) Issues concerning alleged sale of spurious drugs was taken up by Union Health Minister with State Health Ministers in the 7th conference of Central Council of Health (CCH) & FW held on 12-13 July, 2001. CCH resolved that in order to address issues relating to the increasing reports

of spurious drugs/counterfeit drugs, special attention requires to be given to monitor and unearth such illegal activities by constituting a separate inteliigence-cum-legal cell in the respective drug control organization and in seeking cooperation of the pharma industry, trade as well as the police.

(iii) Department of Health constituted a broad based Committee under the Chairmanship of DGHS in July, 2001 to examine issues concerning the problem of spurious drugs. The observations and recommendations of this Committee have been circulated on Sept. 16, 2002 to all State Drugs Controllers for their information and necessary action in the matter.

(iv) Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare had specifically written to all Chief Ministers on Oct. 8, 2002 on the issue of spurious drugs, seeking their personal intervention to ensure that adequate measures are taken in each State to vigorously pursue the strategies needed to preclude any possibility of menace of spurious products so as to collectively ensure its total eradication.

(v) A meeting of Health Ministers and Senior Officials of 13 major States of the country was convened by Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare on 12.11.2002 to ensure concerted action to check any possible movement of spurious drugs in the country and to involve all stake holders to flight this menace. Suggestions/views which emerged out of discussion were forwarded on Jan. 8, 2003 to all the State Governments for their information and necessary action. One of the recommendations which emerged as outcome of discussion, was enactment of The Gujarat Prevention of Anti-social Activities Act, 1985 (PASA) by the State Governments for deterrent action against offenders.

(vi) In order to increase the number of drug samples tested in the country and to bring down the reporting time to less than a month as against 3 to 6 months presently being taken by many laboratories, a comprehensive plan has

been undertaken by Central Government under a capacity building project to be implemented with World Bank assistance.

(vii) In order to ensure speedy information exchange and networking of all States and Central Drugs Control Offices and laboratories, a computerization project has been undertaken by Central Government.

(viii) A specialized training programme for drugs control officers of all State Governments responsible for keeping surveillance over possible movement of spurious drugs has been formulated and was conducted from 25 June, 2003 by Central Government in cooperation with FDA, Maharashtra at Mumbai.

Rise in diabetes and cardio vascular diseases

1568. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras Diabetics Research Foundation has warned of high incidence of diabetes and cardio vascular diseases;

(b) whether Government, keeping in view the serious situation, propose to launch a preventive programme; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to bring about changes in eating habits of the people?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As diabetes and Cardio Vascular diseases (CVD) are lifestyle related diseases, it is very important to adopt preventive lifestyle intervention measures such as healthy diet, increased physical activity, avoidance to tobacco and stress, weight reduction etc. for control of diabetes and CVD in the country. These interventions are being emphasized through Information, Education & Communication (IEC) activities of the Government including through Central Health Education Bureau (CHEB).